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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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DP/PROJECTS/7128

ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
BOLIVIA

IPF:(1987-91) $18 920 000

(BOL/86/022) - Agricultural Development based on Micro-Irrigation and Dryland Areas

Date of approval by the AC:[1]	22 January 1987
Expected duration:	30 months
Proposed executing agency:	Government
Government implementing agency:	Potosi Regional Development Corporation (CORDEPO) in co-operation with the Regional Offices of the Ministry of Peasant and Agricultural Affairs (MACA), Bolivian Institute for Agricultural Technology (IBTA) and the Bolivian Agricultural Bank (BBA)
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$1 460 800 Source of funds: IPF
Total UNDP budget:	$1 460 800

Project background

Agriculture represents approximately 42 per cent of the labor force in Bolivia. Peasant agriculture is the principal supplier of the traditional agricultural products which make up the diet in the western regions of the country. The agricultural sector as a whole represented approximately 21 per cent of GDP ($3,781.64) in 1985; this sector registered a negative growth rate of -27 per cent in 1983 as a result of drought and floods. Approximately 52 per cent of Bolivia's six million inhabitants live in rural areas of which slightly over 800,000 live in the Department of Potosi; and of this nearly 600,000 live in rural areas.

The productivity of this important sector is extremely low, which together with an unfavorable relation between the countryside and cities and the monopolistic tendencies of the cities over marketing and transport systems means that practically all of the peasants are poor and that the majority of the critical poverty in the country is found among the peasants.

The acute drought experienced in the highlands and in the inter-mountain valleys of the Department of Potosi in 1982-1983 made manifest the absolute absence of irrigation infrastructure, of water holes for cattle and domestic use, contributed to the further deterioration of the dry lands, and dramatically demonstrated the need for various actions. Among these actions was the approval of (BOL/83/008) Rehabilitation in Drought Areas, using

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SPR funds which was carried out in the most affected areas of the Departments of Oruro and Potosí. This project which has been continued in 1985 with IPF funds, established the basis for the implementation of the present project. The project (BOL/83/008) has benefitted 6,188 families, putting 2,878 hectares under simple irrigations systems at a cost of approximately $300 per hectare.

Description of project

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) implement and/or improve 322 small-scale hydraulic works in order to provide water for irrigation and limited domestic consumption, in order to increase agricultural production; (b) realize agricultural promotion and extension programmes in order to improve the productivity of the selected irrigated and dry areas through the creation of three pilot demonstration sites and by using appropriate technology, and supply credit, tools and other materials; and (c) train 18 technicians abroad (through TCDC arrangements), 90 community leaders and 1,200 peasants in the use and management of water for irrigation and production systems in the drylands.

Inputs

UNDP will provide for international experts (20 man-months), the national project co-ordinator (30 man-months), local consultants (24 man-months) and administrative support staff; individual fellowships and group training; small-scale irrigation construction materials, tools, seeds, fertilizers and insecticides for use in the demonstration plots; and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	238 200
Training	154 600
Equipment	980 000
Miscellaneous	88 000
Total	1 460 800

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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
BOLIVIA

IPF:(1987-91) $18 920 000

(BOL/85/002) - Agricultural Development Gran Chaco

Date of approval by the AC:[1/]	3 June 1987
Expected duration:	46 months
Proposed executing agency:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Government implementing agency:	Corporación Regional de Desarrollo de Tarija (CODETAR)
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$2 110 000 Source of funds: IPF
Total UNDP budget:	$2 110 000

Project background

One of the fundamental elements of the regional development policy of the Government of Bolivia is to reduce the extreme imbalances between the different Departments of the country. Within this policy, the development of the Province of Gran Chaco has been declared high priority in view of the Province's unused and underused resources. The Gran Chaco is located in the extreme southeastern part of Bolivia and covers an area of 18,110 Km^2. Approximately 53 percent of the Province is arid with less than 600 mm/year of precipitation; and there is also a semi-arid region as well as dry sub-humid zones. Thus,the ecosystem of the Province is precarious.

The population of the province is approximately 59,000 (out of a total population of 6 million in Bolivia) of which approximately 11,600 people are active in the agrarian sector. Ninety-nine per cent of the productive land resources are used for cattlegrazing,with only one per cent for agriculture. Sixty per cent of the farms are, on average, less than 1.17 hectare which, in view of their low productivity, is insufficient to maintain a family. The most important industrial activity in the Province is agro-industry, although there is a critical lack of raw material for the vegetable oil factory in Valle Montes and the cotton plant in Yacuiba.

According to existing studies, there is considerable potential to extend the agricultural and livestock frontier, improve production technology, double the livestock capacity, and improve productivity in the Gran Chaco Province of the Department of Tarija.

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Description of project

The basic objective of the project is to increase the local capacity to formulate and efficiently execute bankable programmes and projects. The project will consist of regional planning, project analysis and an action programme for crop and livestock farmers. The purpose of the action programme is to demonstrate the real potential for increasing production and productivity of selected crops and livestock in the Province and to test approaches to agricultural development for the preparation of large-scale follow-up investment projects.

Inputs

UNDP will provide the services of a CTA (24 man-months), international experts in pastures and fodder (24 man-months) and in conservation of natural resources (12 man-months) and international consultants for the preparatory mission (26 man-months); a national project director (21 man-months), a national crops expert (39 man-months), a national livestock expert (39 man-months) and administrative support; group and in-service training; $150,000 for a revolving fund and equipment for a veterinary laboratory, a soils laboratory and office equipment; and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	1 069 700
Training	65 000
Equipment	929 100
Miscellaneous	46 200
Total	2 110 000

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